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See more on page 88

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August 2015

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Acacia Evolution

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Inspired by form and simplicity, Acacia Evolution design exhibits soft, thin edges. It is also technologically equipped with a powerful flushing system, anti-bacterial touch-points and other revolutionary enhancements.



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Provides up to 30% energy savings



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TIME TO Recharge

ur bedrooms and bathrooms are the most important personal sanctuaries that set our mood at the beginning and end of each day. I always get asked about the essential home pieces to invest in, to which I quickly respond "bed and mattress," as the quality of our sleep greatly affects our productivity. We've all heard that we spend at least a third of our lives sleeping, so designing your space to be conducive to resting is the greatest luxury you can reward yourself with.

For our Bed and Bath issue, experts share their tips on how to design bedrooms that are both functional and visually appealing. From choosing furniture pieces, beddings, and lighting fixtures, skilled interior designers provide valuable advice to help you create an inviting retreat right in your own homes. We also have useful tips on how to keep your bathrooms clean and spotless, as well as caring for your fixtures to keep them in good working condition for a long time.

I am so excited to share with you in this issue four equally stunning homes that are all unique in design. As in every month, we have our regular articles featuring what's new and the latest trends in design. So many new home stores, both local and international, have likewise been emerging left and right— and we couldn't be more thrilled. This means a wider selection for both designers and homeowners to choose from, ourselves included, as we eagerly share our picks to you, our dear readers. We've also rounded up some of the best bed and bath accessories to help you

decorate and add personal touches to your homes.

In these places of comfort, may you be able to create an ideal setting to relax and collect your thoughts at the end of each day.



NIX PICKS

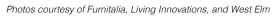
Bolle by Massimo Castagna for Gallotti and Radice, available at Living Innovations

Terrace side table, available at West Elm

Fulham by Rodolfo Dordoni for Molteni & C, available at Furnitalia





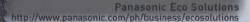


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Abrazo.

With an organic oval shape inspired by clay pottery, the Abrazo bath makes a striking focal point for your contemporary bathroom. Lithocast, a unique solid-surface material has the attractive matte finish of smooth stone but feels warm to the touch and is easy to clean. An integral slotted overflow allows for the deepest possible water level, and a center toe-tap drain with cover completes the stylish design.

KOHLER.PH











pinterest.com

Nature-inspired prints for a visually refreshing space

 $\textit{Written by Toni Medina} \quad | \textit{ Photographed by Greg Mayo} \mid \textit{Additional photo courtesy of Heima} \\ \text{ and Lady Scoott Jones}$



Leather Gallery



Stylish Designs. Undeniable comfort.



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BEST BUYS





Cape Cod basin

and console with shelf

by Duravit, available at Kuysen Enterprises, Inc.

Quintessential Fittings

Bathroom fixtures defined by style, function, and convenience

 $\textit{Written by } \textbf{Toni Medina} \quad | \quad \textit{Photos courtesy of } \textbf{Dexterton, Homestore, Kohler, and Kuysen Enterprises, Inc.} \\$

our bathroom is one of the rooms in the house that take your stresses away, and revitalize your body and mind for a brand new day. It was only in the 1980s that people started looking at bathroom fixtures as an essential part of interior design. In present times, they have evolved and become more innovative as in any other element of the home. From no-drip mechanics and long lasting finishes to water conservation properties and easy installations, the ideas are endless for better performing bathroom fixtures.



mabe. Innovations that make your life easy.

It was easy to decide on which aircon to buy for my home. I certainly went for the one that made me save a lot. Unlike my old a/c which I had to keep running for 8 hours, my new one could automatically shut off and turn into a fan after 4 hours!

This made me save quite a lot.
So every month's end,
I find myself thinking...
In a year's time, where will
I spend my savings best.

Will it be for that Bali trip I've been planning for?

Will it be for a one-time big time shopping-spree?

Will it be for my DREAM WEDDING?

No, my boyfriend will take care of that.

Hmm... I spent days thinking about where to spend my aircon savings.

And then it hit me.
It will be my MOM'S AND DAD'S
30TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY next year.
It will be nice to give them
a really, really nice gift.



THE AIR CONDITIONER WITH ENERGY-SAVING AIR CIRCULATION TECHNOLOGY (ESAC) Automatically shuts off the air compressor then turns into fan mode after reaching the time set. This can give you up to 47% energy savings.

Friday night.
Work's over.
And my girlfriends are set to drink til dawn.
In my flat.
They take the liberty of loading my ref with beer.
I fill the ice-maker with water.
No spills in the ref.

But out in the patio, everyone is recklessly spilling their secret loves and most hated men.

The girls are marching back and forth to the beverage center of the ref, wanting to revive every story with a fresh bottle of beer.



THE IN-GENIOUS, NO-FROST REF It has the features of a side-by-side. With a Smart Station for quick access to beverages and a spill-proof ice maker with a removable water tank filling system.

My sister and her hubby, off they went on a holiday. And I, the good sister, was tasked to care for their kids. ALL THREE OF THEM. Their nanny came along. But still. For two weeks!

I was their mom and their dad.
I drove them to school.
I fixed their meals.
Helped them with homework.

And then at the end of week one, Gasp! A mountain of clothes! Pajamas, school uniforms, and everything else.

So, I shoved 'em all inside my laundry center.
Almost 15kg of kiddie clothes.
Spin. Spin. Spin.
Then I moved them into the dryer.
Yes, all of them at once.
Not even one piece of clothing left waiting.

Whew! No more batch two.

Just a simple chore I gladly did
for my sweet little nieces.



THE LAUNDRY CENTER
Built with a weaher and dryer
of equal capacity of up to 15kg
unlike most others.
Fast drying, Easy-control panel.

When your home works, everything works. **mabe**





BEST BUYS





Shower pipe system by Qes, available at Homestore



Two-way bath shower mixer with turn type diverter by Qes, available at Homestore





Single basin mixer on square plate, available at Homestore



All prices available upon request



Cape Cod basin and console with shelf by Duravit, available at Kuysen Enterprises, Inc.



homestore

www.homestore.com.ph





Wish list

Aspirational designs at affordable prices

- 1. Faucets K150, K280
- 2. Rainshower QS61602B
- 3. Mixers QS 4044T, QS4035BSM, QS4035BM
- 4. Faucets QS88023, KM85066, QK008
- 5. Shower Systems KM13066B



4 faucets





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MC Home Fort Bonifacio 8153978
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Westgate Alabang Home Depot 7712227
Pampanga Home Depot (045) 4552152

Light the Night

Bedside companions that suit your taste and follow your lifestyle

Written by Toni Medina | Photographed by Greg Mayo and Reau Gutierrez Additional photos courtesy of Furnitalia, Pottery Barn, and West Elm

B edside lamps are useful for illuminating specific areas and allow you to accomplish tasks without having to turn on the main light source. Table lamps are a classic choice for your nightstand, but wall lamps are also slowly emerging as a common bedside lighting choice. The latter option is a stylishly clever solution in providing overhead illumination and freeing up space on your bedside table.



Black table lamp, price available upon request at The Pietro Collection



Industrial task lamp in antique brass, P5,950, available at West Elm



Yellow table lamp, price available upon request at The Pietro Collection



HollyG by Giorgio Biscaro for Fontana Arte, price available upon request at Furnitalia



Siptel by Giulio lacchetti for Fontana Arte, price available upon request at Furnitalia



Nori brass hammered table lamp, P17,500, available at Pottery Barn



Blom by Andreas Engesvik for Fontana Arte, price available upon request at Furnitalia



Pillar table lamp in antique brass, price available upon request at West Elm



Bianca by Matti Klenell for Fontana Arte, price available upon request at Furnitalia



IO by Claesson Koivisto Rune for Fontana Arte, price available upon request at Furnitalia



Jordan bone inlay table lamp, price available upon request at Pottery Barn



Mid-century task table lamp, P8,950, available at West Elm



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(032) 238-1632

BEST BUYS





Modern border ink sheet set, available at Dwell Studio



Sweet Dreams

Beddings that can influence the style and ambiance of your bedroom

Written by Toni Medina | Images courtesy of Butterfly Dreams, Canadian Beddings, and Dwell Studio

our sheets, blankets, and pillowcases are all part of what helps you have a good night's sleep, so it's imperative to examine a few major factors before purchasing beddings. Aside from knowing the measurements, you must also pay close attention to the type of sheet material. The most popular choice is cotton or cotton blends, due to its cool comfort that's ideal for our weather. Flannel is a cozier option, while satin sheets are great for aesthetic purposes but can be slippery and less absorbent than cotton. A little research goes a long way, but remember that your final choice must be the most comfortable for you.







Knotted trellis ink sheet set, available at Dwell Studio



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BEST BUYS



Masala citrine sheet set, available at Dwell Studio



Chevron sheet set, available at Dwell Studio

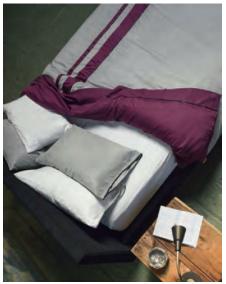






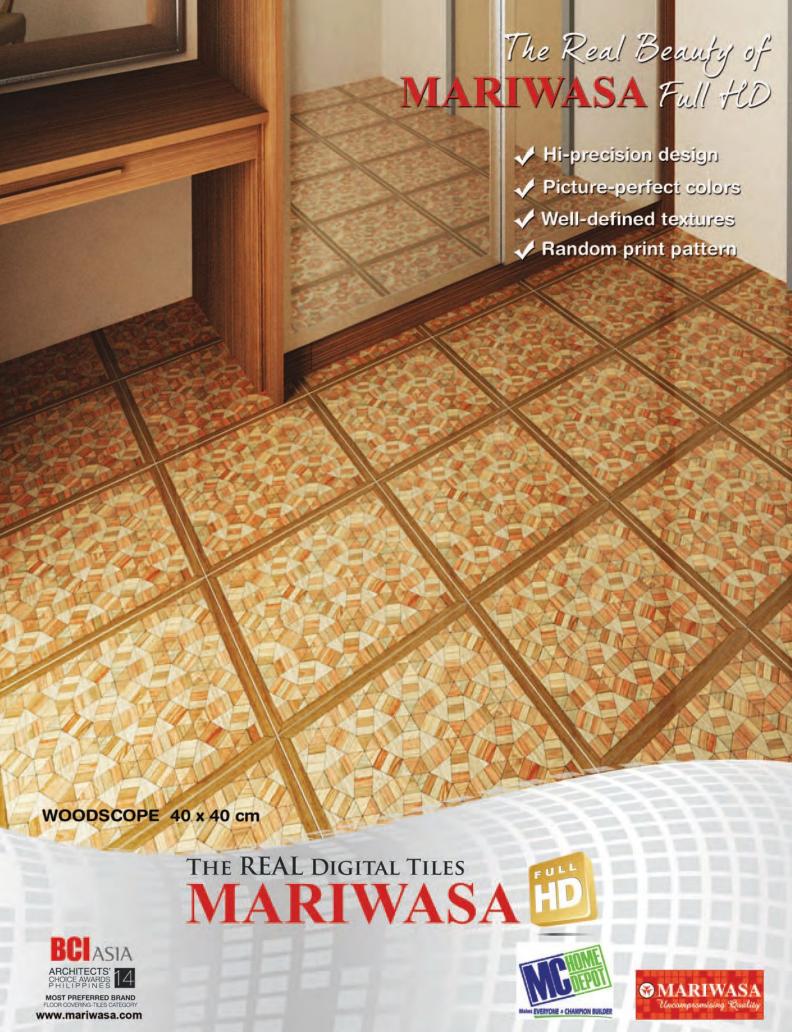
Newport duvet set, available at Canadian Beddings





Ash/shiraz with black iron duvet cover by Tyler Wisler Home, available at Butterfly Dreams

All prices available upon request.



Nightcap

The essentials for your rooms of comfort

from MC Home Depot

Produced by Andrea Arines | Photographed by Mark Jacob of Studio 100 and Reau Gutierrez

oing home will always be the much-awaited close to a tiring day, especially if your bedroom is decorated according to your wants and needs. MC Home Depot happens to be just the right place to look for bedroom and bathroom investments, as it offers a variety of furnishings and fixtures that suit your mood. From bed frames and closets to bathtubs and faucets, MC Home Depot gives you the chance to choose according to what best fits your lifestyle. and Moen exposed

Venus Wall listello (2.6x70cm),

Venus wall tile (25x70cm), P1,740/sq.m., available at La Europa Ceramica

rain shower set, P64,499, P800/pc., available at La Europa available at Innovative Ceramica by Tamsons

> Sento stainless kitchen faucet with 10 years warranty, P9,600, available at Weiyana Marketing

Enterprises, Inc.

aerogaz

Aerogas instantaneous water heater, P5,400, available at Brills Marketing

Indoor wall lamp, P1,780 available at Illumitech and Edix Multi Concept





LED wall lamp, P4,150, available at Illumitech and Edix Multi Concept

Round cone shape table top basin (gold), P8,400 available at Homestore

Duravit Caro water closet by Phoenix Design, P161,265, available at Kuysen Enterprises, Inc.



Ceramica

Realonda wall décor tile (44x66cm), P1,715/sq.m., available at La Europa





water closet brush with holder, P4,455, available at Kuysen Enterprises, Inc.









New, Now, Next

Find out what the latest news and products are



Caffeine Therapy

Turn a rainy day around with The Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf (CBTL) Single Serve Beverage System, a machine like no other that can do three different brews (coffee, tea, and espresso) with just the touch of a button. Produced in partnership with Cafittaly, the Italian expert in crafting the best espresso machines in Europe, the CBTL Single Serve Beverage System is your everyday ticket to world-class coffee and tea. Aside from The Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf cafés, it will also be available at SM Home, Anson's, True Value, Abenson's, and Rustan's Department Stores.





Green Living

Teenagers are in that stage when they are eager to express themselves in every way possible, including the interiors of their private sanctuaries. PBteen, Pottery Barn's arm for teen home furnishings, offers furniture pieces, beddings, lighting, decorative accessories, and storage solutions that can be personalized to suit individual tastes. Drop by their very first branch at Estancia, Capitol Commons to see their exclusive eco-conscious collection inspired by 11-time world surfing champion Kelly Slater's environmental advocacy.



Emotions And Scents

"All Acca Kappa perfumes are meant to share the memories and the experiences that I highly cherish," says Elisa Gera, who primarily draws inspiration from her childhood, family, and nature. Much like their perfumes that each carry a story, Acca Kappa's home fragrance diffusers bring to mind a significant memory as the calming aroma of fine natural oils fills the air. Acca Kappa is located at the lower ground of Central Square, Bonifacio High Street Central, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig.



Essential Buys

Each area of your home deserves equal attention, and True Home by True Value is your newest companion in filling every nook and cranny with pieces of comfort and style. Carrying reasonable price tags, True Home's wide selection of classic and contemporary furnishings is comprised of no less than international brands that cater to all lifestyles. Let your home makeover projects begin by visiting True Home at the third level of both Greenbelt 5 and Robinsons Magnolia.

Keep Your Cool

Making ecological choices, especially in home appliances, doesn't mean having to compromise performance. Hitachi's Side by Side Luxury Series refrigerators are packed with advanced technologies that promote energy conservation. The Vacuum Insulation Panels, for instance, keep the refrigerator's inside temperature low for a long time, while the Eco Monitoring Sensor automatically switches on/off the Energy Saving Mode. For more information, visit facebook.com/hitachiphilippines.





Woodwork

Breakfast becomes more heartwarming with the *Dressed in Wood* collection designed by Marcel Wanders for Alessi, which defines sophisticated comfort with its distinctive use of natural beech wood elements. The series includes a breakfast board, a serving board,

a cheese board, a stand and lid with knob, a centerpiece, and trays. Manufactured locally, the collection is a by-product of artisanship at a nearby community, where the production of wood has been in progress since the 1500s. Alessi is located at Bonifacio High Street, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig.



A design element in your home

ith the bathroom evolving to become more of a personal refuge, a place of quiet and relaxation, design and convenience playan ever-greater role in this trend. The key features of a contemporary bathroom are minimalistic in design, while offering more functionality and space management in a practical manner.

The consumer of today prefers aesthetic bathroom products that provides this exclusive experience.

Here is where the international awardwinning Geberit Monolith Puro steps in. With all working parts including tank, fill and flush valves discreetly concealed within a sleek and durable metal and glass housing, the Monolith Puro is aesthetically pleasing while being safe and reliable.





Advantages at @glance

Plug | Quality | LOW S=3 MAINTENANCE

Installation is quick and easy using existing water connections and drains, involving minimal levels of construction and noise. Neither walls nor tiles requires hacking, allowing a brand new polished look to your bathroom within a day. What's more, the top lid is easily removable and all the spare parts can be conveniently maintained from the top, fuss free.

The Geberit Monolith Puro is specially designed and manufactured to meet the highest standards of Geberit to help you create the bathroom of your dreams.

(From top to clockwise)
Wide variety of colours for every bathroom style,
Blossom | Deep sea | Black | White
Nude | Red | Ocean breeze | Bamboo





An instant facelift with a touch of *Elegance* without the mess.

Exclusively available at:









Take It Easy

How to design bedrooms that allow you to slow down and get a well-deserved break

Produced by Cy Yambao

It is said that we spend about a third of our entire lifetime sleeping. Given that we should be in bed for approximately 229,961 hours, one of the most significant rewards that we can thank ourselves for is a bedroom appropriately designed for rest and relaxation. Three interior designers, who all understand that bedrooms must always answer the needs of their occupants, give foolproof tips on how your little escape can lead to better sleep, a healthier lifestyle, and an overall inspired outlook.



ASTRID SANGIL pbell-aid.weebly.com

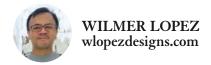
ON SPACE PLANNING: "When planning the layout of any bedroom, consider the primary purpose of the space. Some use their rooms simply as a place for sleeping and unwinding after a day's work. Others, however, prefer to have spaces for working, reading, and even exercising. Determine your priorities, so you can easily find the balance between what you want to include in your room and what could actually fit inside the room.

has been settled, the next thing to consider is the orientation of each furniture piece. Stand at the bedroom doorway and try to visualize what you want to see upon entering the room. Make sure that all pieces are placed in such a way that they still maintain the smooth flow of activities in the room. You wouldn't want to go back and forth the ends of the bedroom just to accomplish a simple task."

ON LIGHTING: "It's a common and unfortunate misconception that it is enough to have a bright daylight fixture at the center of the bedroom. Consider distributing light sources within the room and allotting separate switches for each group, so you can provide ample lighting for each task without having to consume too much energy. Opt for LED lights, which might be more expensive than the outdated incandescent and fluorescent types, but are definitely worth it in the long run. It's good to note that LED light fixtures last a long time, thus there's no need to replace them every few years."

in a room that's well-organized and free from clutter, which is why we try to incorporate practical means of storing items used daily. That way, the eye can focus on central pieces instead of being distracted by small items scattered throughout the room. It's also good to think about lighting, as it plays a crucial part in a room's ambiance. Using warm tones can make the space feel more comforting and suitable for relaxation. Avoid using high contrasts and bright colors, and instead opt for muted palettes and materials that are soft to touch, especially for beddings and pillow covers."





ON CHOOSING FINISHES: "It is best to use materials which not only stimulate warmth and comfort, but are also easy to maintain. Take into consideration the health conditions of the user as well. For example, if you have respiratory problems, do not use woven materials or fabrics that accumulate dust. It is also important to consider soft furnishings that can help lessen noise, since the bedroom is a place for resting."

MATERIALS: "The use of solid wood. engineered wood, or vinyl laminates is preferred over vitrified ceramic tiles since these are able to retain warmth. Having area rugs

ON FLOORING AND WALL

also adds comfort and charm. For your walls, paint without volatile organic compounds is a versatile option if you want to get a variety of colors. Wallpaper is an option as well, as it offers a variety of designs and can even help

in sound absorption."

tables that double as desks and storage organizers do the trick for small spaces. Another storage solution used widely is converting the unused space underneath the bed into drawers for linens and clothes.

ON STORAGE SOLUTIONS: "Bedside

benches with storage organizers can likewise answer your problems on limited storage."

HIS SECRET: "Consider the personality of the user by thinking of what his own concept of comfort is. For some, this could be done through lighting or through the use of calming colors. For others, even dark interiors can work as long as there are touches of their personality. Provide ample storage spaces, especially since most people love to keep a lot of things. It's also good to invest in furniture pieces that are both comfortable and timeless. Most importantly, consider their sleeping and personal habits in designing the space."

"Consider the personality of the user by thinking of what his own concept of comfort is"





DESIGNER TIPS



CAI LIM-REGALA crldesigns.com

ON COLOR SCHEMES: "It is better to play it safe when choosing the right hue for your walls, and experiment with the colors of your beddings instead. If you are unsure of what color to paint your room, opt for white, beige, or other neutral colors. Now that you have a clean palette, play around with the colors of your linens depending on your mood. Think of changing linens as a similar task as dressing up, in which you can express your personality and style."

ON CHOOSING FURNITURE PIECES:

"Invest in the most important pieces in the room: a good quality bed and mattress. You can remove all the other pieces, but as long as the bed is there, your bedroom will serve its purpose. A carefully chosen bed and mattress will determine if you'd have a sound sleep at night and wake up with a smile the next morning. Purchase a bed frame that is sturdy and doesn't squeak over time.

You might also want to go for softer finishes

You might also want to go for softer finishes on exposed areas of the bed, such as an upholstered headboard and sidings, so you don't bump yourself on the corners."





HER SECRET: "To be able to promote rest and relaxation in the bedroom, I aim to touch all the five senses. For sense of sight, make the space aesthetically pleasing and clutter-free. For sense of smell, use scented candles, reed diffusers, and aromatherapy, as a room that smells good consequently feels clean and cozy. For sense of hearing, incorporate music that adds to the overall ambiance of the room and can make one sound asleep. For sense of touch, choose nice linens with a decent number of thread count, shag carpets, and plush throws. When all four senses are given importance, you automatically satisfy the sense of taste as well. Besides, you can always offer breakfast in bed to your special someone." 🗥











BIG+BIH October 2015

The Bangkok International Gift Fair 2015 and Bangkok International Houseware Fair 2015, or BIG+BIH 40th edition, the most comprehensive one stop shop exhibition of lifestyle products, is returning again. Be indulged with thousands of chic, trendiest and stylish lifestyle products from gifts to premiums and houseware with top export quality from 500 Thai and international manufacturers/exporters, 1,600 exhibit booths on 40,000 sqm.

Be the first to select distinctive and unique product designs in eight categories as follows:

- Gift and Premiums
- Artificial flowers and plants
- Decorative and handicraft items
- Candle and spa products
- A Christmas trees and accessories

- Toys and stationary
- Houseware
- Eco friendly products
- Others







Dazzle with special feature zones in the show, such as

- An exhibition of pet product market development project in Japan.
- Lampang ceramic product cluster match-making community level ceramic product entrepreneurs in Thailand and Japan, leading to reciprocal market expansions in both countries.
- 60+ Project, Showcasing products for the elderly in Japan in a "Select Shop" setting, including furniture / home decorations for the elderly, as well as jewelry, cosmetics and spa products.
- Exhibition on Chiang Mai gift and souvenir cluster developing Chiang Mai gift and souvenir cluster entrepreneurs among
 20 member companies in 6 products.



- . DEmark, an exhibition of products receiving "Design Excellence Award"
- Top of OTOP, showcasing finest quality products from throughout Thailand.
- I+D Style Cafe* and TTM + PM Award: Designed as new modern cafe* with comfort, relaxing and friendly ambience to welcome visitors, the new look cafe* is decorated with ecological and innovative products. Also displayedinside are products receiving Prime Minister's Award and Thailand Trust Mark (TTM). Advisory services will be available for manufacturers/producers to participate in numerous projects by Office of Design and Innovation for Trading Promotion with special emphasis on utilization of green and eco-friendly rawmaterials.
- DITP Logistics Pavilion project facilitating and providing fully integrated logistic services.



FROM THAILAND

a a a a







TRADE:

19-21 OCTOBER 2015 10.00-18.00 HRS.











Tile It Up

Quality, design, and material are the deciding factors for bathroom tiles

Produced by Camille del Rosario | Photos courtesy of iTrade, Mariwasa, and Porcelanosa

he bathroom is probably the area in your home that widely optimizes tiles. From flooring to wall coverings, tiles keep your bathrooms more sanitary and water-resistant than using paint or wallpaper. Give your bathrooms a whole different personality by choosing the right tiles from these trusted suppliers, who produce only the finest quality tiles.



Porcelanosa

One of the leading tile manufacturers in the world, Porcelanosa provides the local market with well-designed products of the finest quality. Their ceramic tiles range from modern to classic design styles and are infused with the latest technology that makes them durable, nonporous, and resistant to chemical agents. Porcelanosa is also a great source of bathroom furniture, fixtures, and accessories that will aid in the construction of your bathroom.

Address: Casa Europa, Mezzanine Level, Infinity Tower, 26th Street, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig

Phone: (02) 519 3515

Email: info@porcelanosa.com.ph



iTrade

iTrade offers high quality tiles with trendy designs that span a wide variety of sizes, materials, and styles. From irregularly shaped hexagon and chevron tiles to heavily printed and textured tiles, iTrade has all the options to achieve a unique aesthetic. They also offer complete bathroom solutions such as fixtures and accessories. iTrade's products surpass quality standards, which is one factor to consider when choosing the most suitable tiles for your bathrooms.

Address: Architectural and Interior Source. Units 2-6. 2F Forum South Global. 7th Avenue. cor. Federacion Drive, Bonifacio Global City, Taguig

Phone: (02) 622 5922

Email: itrade.info@cebuionic.com

Mariwasa

Available in all leading home depots and tile shops nationwide, Mariwasa is a go-to source for bathroom tiles at very reasonable prices. They have tiles of varying purposes, designs, sizes, and colors, so you will never run out of options. Mariwasa has also integrated an anti-slip technology in their products to prevent the risk of accidents in the bathroom. They are known to have brought in Cotto, a brand that offers world-class sanitary ware like water closets and wash basins, to name a few.

Address: Mariwasa Siam Ceramics, Inc., Unit 802 Fort Legend Tower, 3rd Ave. cor. 31st St.,

Bonifacio Global City, Taguig Phone: (02) 717 6900

Email: hotline@mariwasa.com

the kitchen essentials

Discover the recipe to a delightful cooking experience

Ever wondered how real, delectable meals are made? You don't need to go far. Great cooking can come straight from your kitchen. The kitchen will always be the heart of your home with food served to nourish the mind. body, and soul. Whether it's a small or large kitchen, you'll certainly need the right essentials that will bring you the pleasure of concocting flavorful dishes.

THE PLACE TO COOK

Let the kitchen inspire you to cook sumptuous meals. Create the perfect ambiance by organizing your work space. Most kitchen tasks require using the stove, the sink, and the refrigerator. Be selective of your appliances since these will take most of the area. There must be enough room for you to move around and interact with loved ones helping you in cooking flavorful recipes.

Organize kitchenware according to how often you use them. Place the most commonly used items in the nearest shelves and special occasion pieces in farther cabinets. Store dry goods like flour or sugar in decorative canisters marked with labels so you can easily find them. Turn baskets into easy-to-grab bins for tools placed on the top shelf.

Take inspiration from professional kitchens with smart storage systems. You don't need to spend too much. Work on a budget and you will surely be on your way. Sometimes, adding a small, personal touch to

the kitchen can make a big difference. By choosing accessories that complement your kitchen's design, you start bringing flavor to the room. These can come from patterned towels and table cloths, flowers for the countertop, a fancy display of your wine collection, and even the music you play as you prepare your meal.

MYHOME SPECIAL

CHOOSING THE BEST TOOLS

Having a trusted set of utensils will help you focus on preparing your dish. Consider if these items are worth the price. How often will you use it? Will it last long? Always start with the basic tools you really need. Refrain from using metal or hard plastic utensils on cookware as it may easily scratch the surfaces. Instead, opt for wooden or silicone type of utensils. Cookware must be made from stainless steel or cast iron to prevent unwanted chemicals from seeping into food.

Have at least three glass bowls with different sizes for mixing any food type. Choose high quality cutlery for precision and long-lasting use. Pair it with two cutting boards—one for the vegetables and the other as a large thick chop block for the meat. Take note of other kitchen tools that may come in handy like a quality vegetable peeler or a 5-in-1 can opener.



The kitchen should always have a unique taste to offer. Make sure you have all the ingredients for your next recipe, or schedule the meals you want to try for the coming week. With McCormick Meal Recipe Mixes, you can explore expertly blended flavors for your daily feasts. Taste the oozing goodness of various McCormick meals from Filipino classics like adobo and sinigang, the eccentric essence of chicken curry, to a tangy and meaty barbecue serving.

Match your choice of mix with McCormick Rice Cookers Recipe Mix so you can turn plain rice into a flavorful staple. Cook it the same way as you prepare traditional rice but with all-natural spices that let you savor different flavors of the world. Go oriental and try the Hainanese Chicken Rice dashed with hints of lemongrass, ginger, and garlic for an appetizing taste. If you're craving a more unique flavor, choose Biryani Rice Cookers. Its essence of turmeric, cinnamon, and cardamom will satisfy your palate. Or have a richly flavored cup of Nasi Lemak rice with its wonderful blend of pandan and coconut milk. You'll definitely look forward to cooking more delicious meals because the best ingredients are now within reach.

For more details on McCormick's flavorful mixes, visit the website www.mccormick.com.ph or check the Facebook page < www.facebook.com/friendsandflavor> to get the latest updates.





Bedside Companion

Nightstand designs are stepping up and making a statement in bedrooms

Written by IDr. Joy Merryl Ngo | Photographed by Mark Jacob of Studio 100

edside tables often get overshadowed by the other furniture pieces and accessories in your room. Storage and display serve as their main purpose, and the design normally comes as a lower priority. Lately, however, night tables are becoming more stylish, unconventional, and innovative. In this issue, we have selected a variety of bedside tables to show you that while these side tables perform the same function, their varying styles and materials matter just as much. a





DESIGN SOLUTIONS









The stunning and stylish **Toronto Collection** is a breath of fresh air. The series boasts not only of its uniqueness of design but also of a comfortable and luxurious urban feel. The striking form & unmistakable flair cohesively binds these pieces together. For more condo furnishing solutions, avail of the free BLIMS Design Services. Visit a BLIMS showroom today for more details.





TORONTO COFFEE TABLE

Taking function into another dimension as this center table provides maximum storage space with the gentle parting of the table top, an innovative design concept for your contemporary space.



TORONTO NEST OF TABLES

Toronto nest of tables reflects a seamless and organic shape with its no frills detailing made more interesting with its uninterrupted three-legged base - an accent piece that can be a focal point anytime!



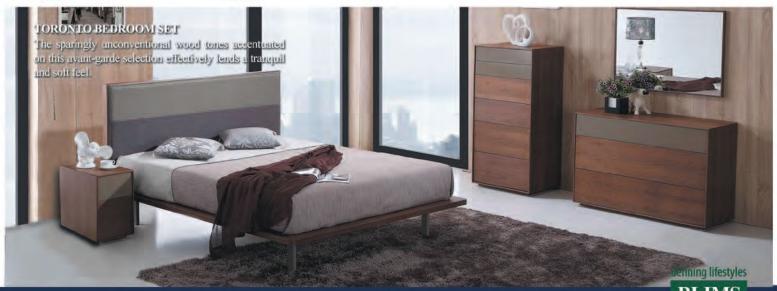
TORONTO TV CABINET

Linear, edgy and polished. An exquisite statement piece in your TV room that is best used and seen, perfect for urban living.



TORONTO DINING SET FOR 4

Dine in form, function and flair with this dining set. The desirable iconic shape of the chairs with molded back and seat rest and its slim profile is a standout on its own.













DECORATE









LEAFING THROUGH THE PAGES

Entrepreneur Trish Panlilio gives us a glimpse of her warm, open home

Written by Kitkat Torres | Photographed by Mike Cuevas of Studio 100

ike a book you want to read from cover to cover, Trish Panlilio's home that is characterized by moments of discovery and wonder does not disappoint. It's easy to forget that you're in the middle of the city as the model, foodie, entrepreneur, and mother of three takes us through her family's own literal haven of stories.

One of the first things you'll notice in this vibrant and open-air residence is the impressive collection of books. Whether on shelves or carefully laid out in piles, they greet you at every turn and in every room. Their function is as much decorative as it is functional, which is a testament to the family's love for reading. Trish shares that they rarely watch TV, and that even her sons prefer a good novel over catching the latest series.

Adding even more dimension is Trish's personal design philosophy. Preferring an assortment of colors, patterns, and textures to a very uniform and fixed setup, she wants the house to feel and be lived-in—ultimately, a place where family and friends can just pick up a book, sit on the couch, eat, and have a great time. Trish's hands-on approach to design has allowed her to master the uncanny ability to combine furniture pieces, artworks, fresh flowers, and decorative pieces with her ever-growing library. In fact, she explains that the books even help her define the different living spaces.

In the dining area, a few quirky and helpful cookbooks lay atop the large *narra* table, which Trish inherited from her mother, the late jeweler, Fe S. Panlilio. Similar titles are found across the space, serving as easy conversation starters that also add fun to the eating experience (a treat matched only by Trish's signature dishes from her food business, *nawwTy's kitchen*).



Through large glass-panel doors with intricate ironwork, the Amber Room welcomes you to sit and enjoy a good book. Beyond, the warmth of the sun-kissed backyard beckons through the soft, sheer curtains

HOMES



A play of textures, this cozy corner brings together a whole tactile adventure—the grain of wood, the smoothness of glass, the cowhide rug, the differing weaves of fabric, and the tender leaves. They are all tied together by a family of pantones, letting the design work together seamlessly.



This corner that proudly displays some of the books in the family's collection is a brilliant splatter of colors. From the book covers and pillow cases to the striped chairs and elaborate rug, the eye is allowed to take in this vibrant display—and even better, Trish encourages guests to interact with it.

Nearby is the Amber Room, whose soft yellow walls turn gold with the glow of the glass chandelier. This area is a favorite among her sons, with stacks of board games, comfy sofas, and relaxing café and *bossa nova* tunes filling the space. Appropriately, the change in atmosphere is reflected by coffee table books about art, fashion, and travel.

On the other end, large glass doors spill out onto the backyard, transporting you into a lush, tropical retreat. It feels like a resort in the heart of the city, which begins with a tiled deck steps away from a garden, pool, and cabana. The cozy outdoor sofas and chairs are as inviting as the number of novels; poetry collections; and pieces about plants, flowers, gardens, and travel. The vibrant colors are also a fun contrast to the cooler hues inside, clearly setting each space apart but allowing them to complement each other.

Filled with stories—written, shared, or newly made with family and friends—this is definitely a house that is as welcoming as it is nurturing.



HOMES

Like everywhere else in the house, the living area is permeated with light. It is set against a backdrop of white walls and floors, so the variety of furniture, textures, and colors pops out nicely. Proof of Trish's love for mixing and matching, there is a blend of Western, Asian, modern, and traditional touches that forms one cohesive look.



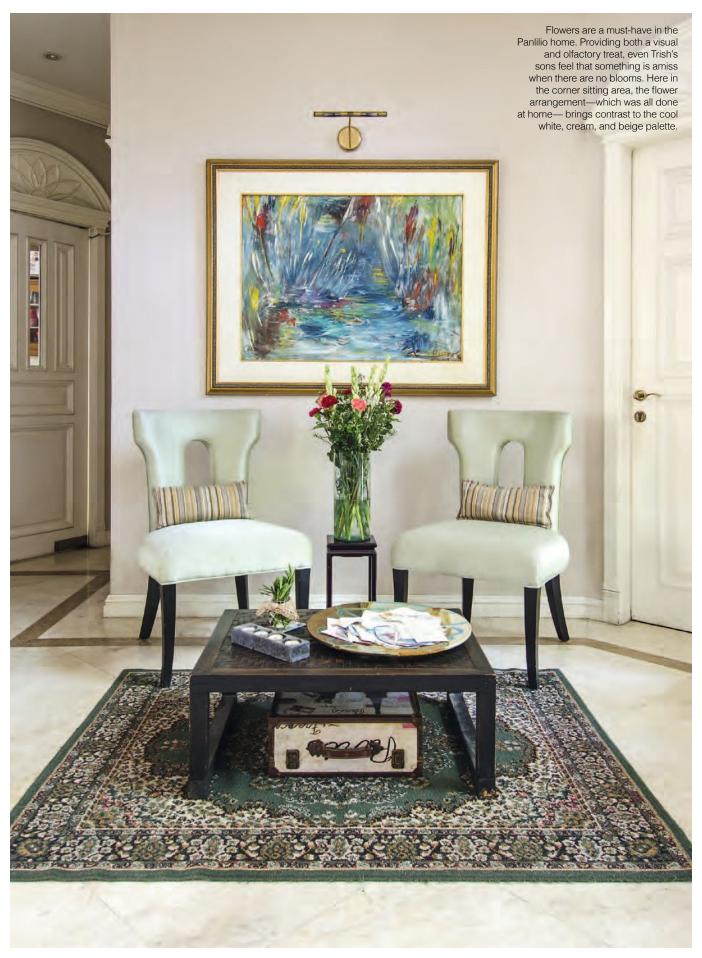






Left: The curved and ornate stairway is the perfect contrast to the simple and clean lines of the house. Adding color are Trish's collection of paintings underneath and the geometrically patterned rug that welcomes you upstairs. Right: The entrance hall serves as your first glimpse of Trish's fun design mix, with its touches of greenery, literature, and travel mementos.

She wants the house to feel and be lived-in—ultimately, a place where family and friends can just pick up a book, sit on the couch, eat, and have a great time





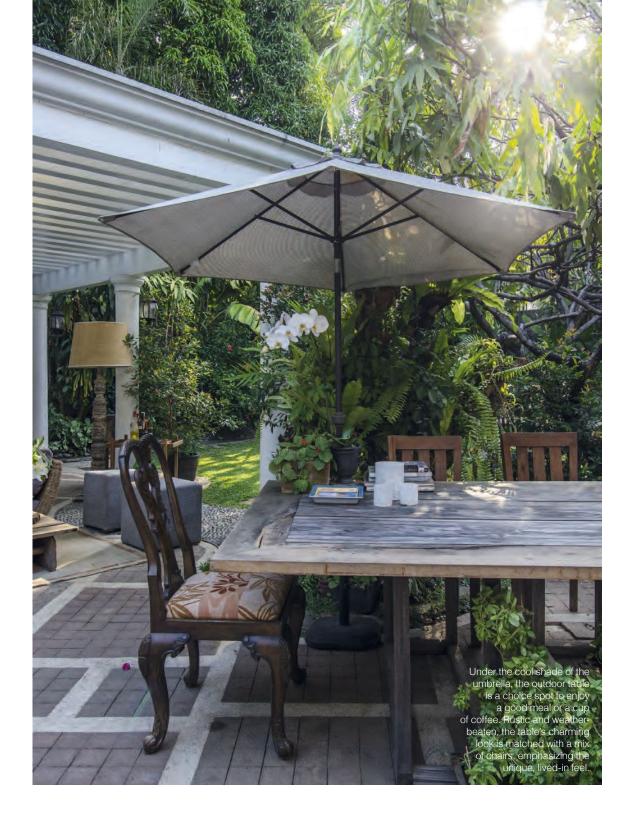
Left: The balcony is the perfect place to relax and kick your feet up after a long day. At the center is a charming, Asian-inspired mini cabana that's great for catching the sun.

Right: This outdoor hanging lounge chair by the pool is just another example of how Trish maximizes spaces and makes every area a relaxing spot for both family and friends.









It feels like a resort in the heart of the city, which begins with a tiled deck steps away from a garden, pool, and cabana







A DIFFERENT VIEW

An art enthusiast couple transfers to a resort-like home inspired by their most prized painting

Written by Cy Yambao | Photographed by Vincent Coscolluela

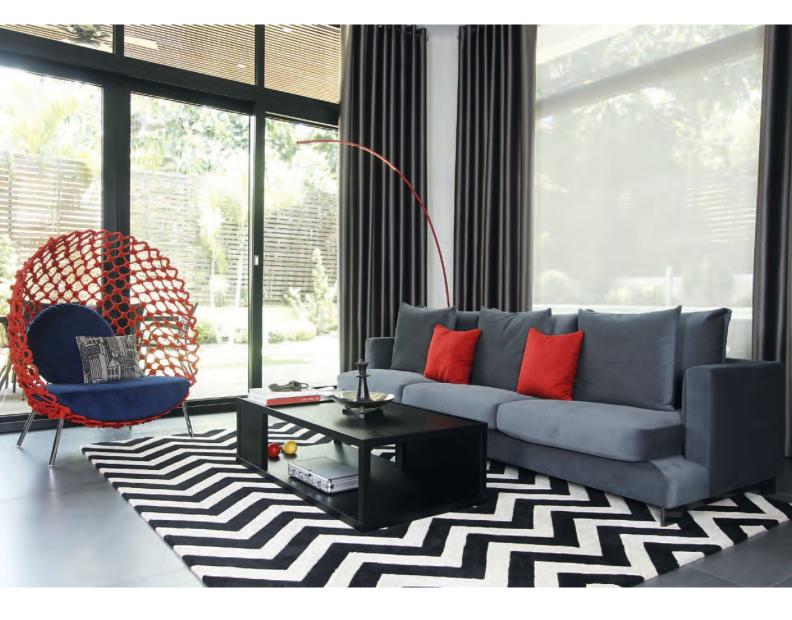


eaving their former home situated in a commercial district in exchange of a two-level residence surrounded by lush greenery almost feels like a dream come true for this family of four. While the entrepreneur couple, along with their two teenage sons, have learned how to adapt in a busy environment, nothing compares to basking in the outdoors without having to worry about noise and air pollution.

The family simply longed for a modern resort-type dwelling that welcomes nature in through floor-to-ceiling glass doors and windows. What they used to only wish for has now been brought to life through the installation of an infinity pool, a

jacuzzi, a basketball court for the boys, and several lounging areas. Interior Designer Evangeline Lim, who conformed to the architect's exterior design and space planning, took inspiration from the family's willingness to be experimental in combining their personal preferences with unconventional styles.

HOMES



The entertainment room follows a similar design and color scheme as the main living area because the two are only separated by glass sliding doors. The gray couch is complemented by Kenneth Cobonpue's Dragnet chair and a chevron wool area rug. Interior Designer Evangeline Lim opted to give the space a more youthful vibe, since this is where the couple's kids entertain friends.

"They are not your typical Chinese family bounded by the perception of avoiding dark color schemes," shares Evangeline. "In fact, the kids even requested to incorporate black in some areas of the house, particularly in the bedrooms." This outwardly heavy palette is balanced out by splashes of vibrant reds and blues (which also happen to be the couple's favorite colors), as evident in a number of accent pieces by Kenneth Cobonpue and a growing collection of artworks by local names in the industry. An Arturo Luz painting, considered to be one of the family's most prized possessions, dictates the recurring theme in the house defined by minimalist, geometric, and abstract elements.

Evangeline reveals that such diversity in art pieces reflects the family's unique taste in modern art

and design. Even the designer furniture pieces were selected because of their attention-grabbing quality, which they consider just as important as functionality. Majority of the other furnishings were bought off the floor, but were still carefully selected in accordance to the couple's standards in quality and comfort, as well as how these unique designs would fit well into the concept of their home.

"This home reflects the laidback personality of my clients, and at the same time brings out the fun and modern vibe of the whole family," says Evangeline. "They love the outdoors, but equally enjoy the cozy ambiance indoors after a tiring day at work. The design of the house is proof that my clients worked hard to build a home where they can have fun, relax, and see themselves growing old in."



The family simply longed for a modern resort-type dwelling that welcomes nature in through floor-to-ceiling glass doors and windows

Left: The family's prized Arturo Luz painting, which the couple acquired even before the construction of their home commenced, finds a spot above the customized veneer console cabinet. "This was actually one of the first items they told me they wanted to place in their house," shares Evangeline. A sculpture by Ramon Orlina sits below the artwork.

Right: An abstract painting by Max Balatbat greets guests upon entering the front doors. To separate the foyer from the living area, Evangeline opted to install a wooden divider.









The clean kitchen, wherein the island is accented by red bar stools to contrast the neutral color palette, doubles as a breakfast nook for the family.



Despite being of Chinese descent, the family was not afraid to incorporate dark color schemes in the rooms. They spend a lot of time watching movies in the family room, whose dominantly black area rug mimics the color of the walls.



Above: Nature plays a significant role in the design of the entire house, and even the master bedroom is surrounded by full-height glass windows that give a refreshing view of the outdoors. Evangeline made use of chocolate brown wallpaper to contrast the light-colored pieces in the room.

Opposite page: Evangeline decided to keep the cabinets in dark wood tones to give the master walk-in closet a luxurious feel. The open cabinet positioned at the center of the space serves as storage and display for the wife's growing collection of designer bags.





"The design of the house is proof that my clients worked hard to build a home where they can have fun, relax, and see themselves growing old in"



One of the sons wanted his room to employ a dark color scheme, but Evangeline suggested infusing touches of blue to make the space livelier. "To maximize the big windows, I designed a built-in lounge area that can double as an extra bed when his friends sleep over," says Evangeline.





Since the son's walk-in closet is not as spacious, glass cabinet doors were installed to visually enlarge the space, as well as prevent the clothes from accumulating dust.







Left: The outdoor dining area, which is connected to the entertainment room, is where the family holds parties and gatherings. The glass doors can be fully opened to attain a continuous indoor to outdoor circulation. Right: Proving to be a beautiful backdrop for the living room, the infinity pool doubles as a water feature and provides a relaxing ambiance that envelopes the whole house.

PERSONAL TOUCH

A young family's design preferences evolve as they shift spaces

Written by Cy Yambao
Photographed by Mark Jacob of Studio 100

hile houses are meant to grow along with the families living in them, there are stories bound to end at some point—but begin again someplace else, where old memories can be retold and new ones can be given life. For this young family, their home of eight years has proven to have fulfilled its purpose, and it's just the right time to move into a much bigger dwelling.

"It was our first home as a married couple but as our family grew, the household help also grew. We accumulated more pieces and realized that the place was a little bit too small for us," says the lady of the house, who, like her husband, is an entrepreneur. The family of four found their new sanctuary at Arya Residences in Bonifacio Global City, which was still slated to rise at the time they were contemplating on transferring addresses. "Since the building wasn't up yet, we had the chance to tell them exactly how we would want it," she explains. "We met with our architect, Gil Coscolluela, about two years before construction. It was a long process, but only because we started early."

The circular layout of the living area is anchored on the fabric-and-leather couch by Giorgetti, which the lady of the house got from Furnitalia. "I was being offered the typical rectangular type, but I see that everywhere," she shares. "When I saw this one, I super fell in love with it. If ever we move houses in the future, I'm definitely taking it."









Design remains a priority, of course, but it's always the personal touch that makes a house a home



"We like traveling just as much as we love eating," says the lady of the house, who also finds joy in cooking for the family, especially on weekends. "We travel for food, so we would rethink going to places where we think the cuisine is not as good."

Contrary to their former dwelling that followed a modern Italian aesthetic, the couple's present home veers away from minimalist designs and instead introduces a mix of elements. The multifunctional couches are complemented by textured and patterned pillows, while the marble dining table is paired with customdesigned leather chairs. Shelves are lined with travel mementos, in the same way coffee tables are adorned with books on interiors, fashion, and art. Storage spaces were created to blend with walls, but the couple's artwork collection was intended to stand out and define the living spaces.

"I guess, for me, you just shouldn't get overwhelmed by what the experts tell you," says the lady of the house, who admittedly takes inspiration from a lot of her friends with good taste. The couple values relationships so much that even when purchasing furniture pieces, they prefer brands and designers they're comfortable working with. Design remains a priority, of course, but it's always the personal touch that makes a house a home. "That's one thing I learned: if you're not comfortable with how it looks, you can just do your own thing even though the pieces don't match," says the lady of the house. "It's your home, after all, so as long as it makes you happy and relaxed, then that should be okay." 🗥







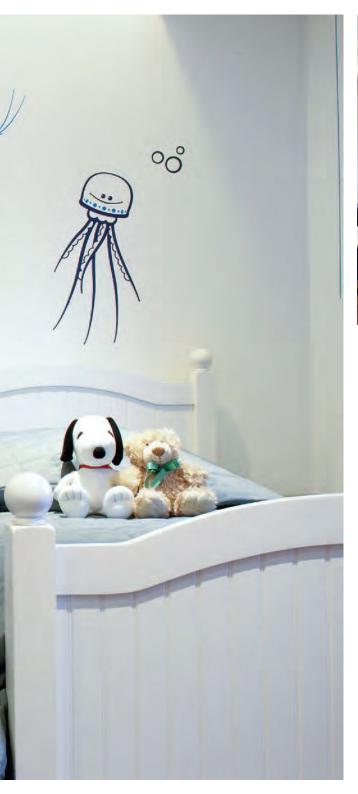
Left: "This is my husband's man cave. He's into speakers and sound systems, and even our whole house can be controlled from his laptop," shares the lady of the house. This is where the family bonds over movies, with the Rolf Benz couch being convertible into a La-Z-Boy lounge.

Right: The hallway is lined with the couple's artwork collection by both local and foreign artists like Arturo Luz, Popo San Pascual, and James Jean.





Above: "We wanted our sons to love being in the room, so we bought these sea-inspired decals," says the lady of the house. "They love going to the beach! Even when we're abroad and there's an aquarium, we make it a point to go, as I know they love fish." Opposite page: The couple wanted to have shelves that are decorative as they are functional. The one at the boys' bedroom displays their sons' collection of dinosaur toys, which they love secondary to underwater animals.





"That's one thing I learned:
if you're not comfortable
with how it looks, you can
just do your own thing
even though the pieces
don't match"





"These cabinets by Space 2000 are my favorite," says the lady of the house of the pull-out storage spaces, where she keeps supplies, toiletries, and makeup. "Now you can pretend that you're a neat person because everything is hidden."





A globally renowned furniture designer marries understated elegance with contemporary chic interiors

Written by Kat Darauay | Photographed by Mike Cuevas of Studio 100

he mention of Ito Kish's name automatically makes eyes light up, as one thinks of the lovely stories behind his residential projects that are waiting to be told. The award-winning furniture designer, who is also a design consultant, has this uncanny ability to transform seemingly ordinary houses into dwellings that are full of life.

This three-storey residence conveys elegance at first glance, as you walk along the hallway that leads to the sophisticated living area. The double-height ceiling accentuated by a lavish chandelier blends well with the solid wood accent wall in one corner. The use of gold tones in contrast to a neutral palette conveys classic elegance that still has a warm and soft appeal. Furniture pieces and accessories have all been handpicked by Ito himself, taking into consideration the personal preferences of the couple and their three beloved children.



Furniture pieces and accessories have all been handpicked by Ito himself, taking into consideration the personal preferences of the couple and their three children

Art Deco-inspired pieces are scattered in different areas of the house, including this bronze mirror that gives a distinct flavor to the wooden console table.

The use of wood continues to the dining area, stimulating a laidback ambiance ideal for eating with the entire family. The round table made of hardwood that's been with the family for a decade now is paired with chairs, which can be mistakenly thought of as being purchased abroad but are actually local in flavor. The master bedroom is spacious and pristine, with big picture windows letting the light in every morning. The hardwood flooring gives the room a tough look, but the uniquely designed lamps adorning the bedside tables inject color and extra oomph. The master bath is immaculately white as well, starting from the sinks down to the marble floor. Meanwhile, the children's rooms were designed according to their personalities, thus there is an aura of warmth and cheeriness brought about by varying wallpaper designs. Yes, even the wallpapers setting each room apart reflect the family's good taste.

Walking into a home designed by Ito Kish gives you that warm, fuzzy feeling as you go through the living spaces. While some of the accent furniture pieces are creations of homegrown Filipino talents, others have been carefully sourced from across the globe, especially when Ito attends design exhibitions in Europe or goes on buying trips for his home furnishings store, KISH. What makes this home very personal, though, is that it has been designed to suit the family's taste instead of the other way around.



Right: Aside from the patterned wallpaper, the unconventional coffee table serves as the anchor piece in this living area.

Below: Wood has been highly optimized in this house—from the flooring and accent wall to the coffee and bedside tables to the multifunctional consoles and cabinet drawers.

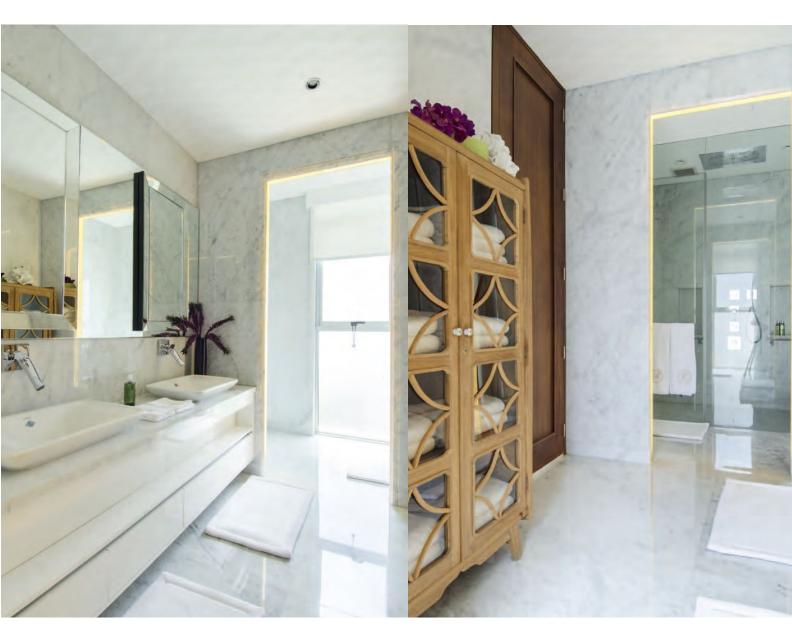








The master bedroom is unspoiled of clutter. To contrast the subdued color scheme, warm wood tones and touches of green have been incorporated to the space most conducive for relaxation.



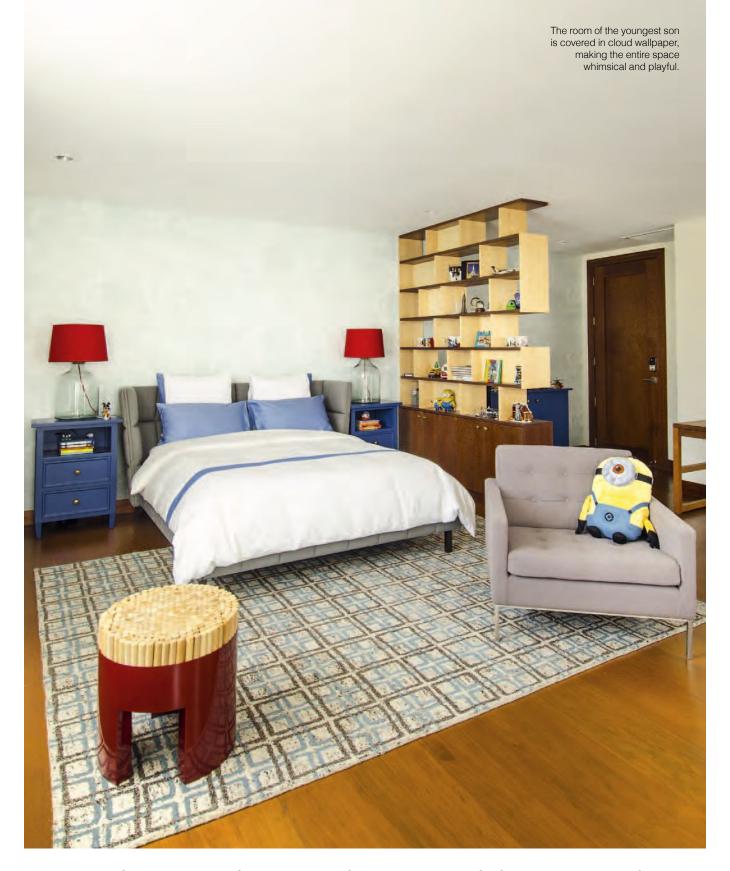
The neat and organized master bath is appropriately bathed in pristine white. Towels are stacked in a wood-and-glass cabinet, ready for use anytime. Although one of the more private spaces, the bathroom design was well-thought-of that even the doors are bordered with accent lighting.





Left: The couple's children personally chose the color schemes of their rooms, and the daughter specifically wanted this floral wallpaper for hers. The rose and green hues give the room a cheery ambiance.

Right: A study table is positioned at the corner of the daughter's room, with a big window letting natural light in. The wall covered in the same floral wallpaper doubles as a divider that leads to the actual bedroom.



Award-winning furniture designer and design consultant Ito Kish has this uncanny ability to transform seemingly ordinary houses into dwellings that are full of life



Left: Blue is the predominant color in the other son's room. The cabinets and side tables painted in the same hue match with the geometric wallpaper.

Below: Following the same layout as the daughter's room, the son's study area incorporates a lounge, a desk, shelves, and storage spaces.







Right: Who knew leaves would make for an interesting room wall design? There is an instant sense of calm and serenity in the guestroom, whose walls and ceiling are accented by palm-printed wallpaper from Studio Eleven.

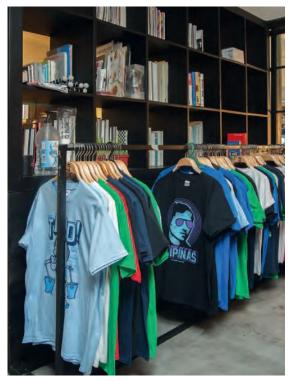
Left: One nook in the guestroom is dedicated as a study area, as in all the other bedrooms of the house.





CREATIVE SPACE





"We are developing more playful and colorful designs for the younger segment of the market. We want to offer lower-priced merchandise for the students," says Jowee of their t-shirt range, which is displayed in this recently added rack.





Above: This shelf houses TeamManila's growing collection of design books. "One of our first books that inspired us to pursue graphic design is HBI Typography One," says Jowee. "We kept looking at that book as an inspiration because we wanted to create projects like the ones it featured."

Left: Music will always be part of Raymund Punzalan's workspace. His partner, Jowee, shares that the speakers and amplifiers represent the Daily Grind Clothing brand.

1. How would you describe your workspace?

It was bare concrete when we moved in a few years back. We had the opportunity to create an open space, where we can be creative and work on our craft. The walls are black-and-white. but we eventually filled them up with our works and book collection.

2. What do you love most about your workspace?

We have collected a number of design books since we started the studio, and this is the highlight of the creative department. It reminds everybody that the work we produce should be worth publishing in these international publications.

3. Which object in your office are you most sentimental about?

Our business card holds an important history to us, as we have been using the same format from when we started. There is a line there that says 'Ten

thousand strong,' which serves as a reminder for us to work hard and always have a dream.

4. Do you have a daily ritual before starting your work day?

Start the Internet and the coffee machine. We also check email inquiries and our schedule for the day.

5. Are you more productive in the morning or evening?

We've trained ourselves to be productive during studio hours, so we can finish everything by the day's end. After studio hours are spent on other activities like music, gigs, events, and family.

6. What are the three things you must have while working?

Music, good internet speed, and a calm environment

7. Do you prefer silence or listening to music while working?

It is a very democratic playlist



"We have always wanted to represent where we came from in the international design scene, so we came up with a name that tells where we are from and what we do," says Jowee Alviar and Raymund Punzalan, the genius minds behind graphic design studio TeamManila.

around here. The creative department got their own system, and it ranges from top hits to hip-hop to obscurities. Some people zone out with their own music devices and playlists.

8. What are you currently reading?

A lot of PDF articles, and books on strategy and branding design. We also collect old Filipino coffee table books.

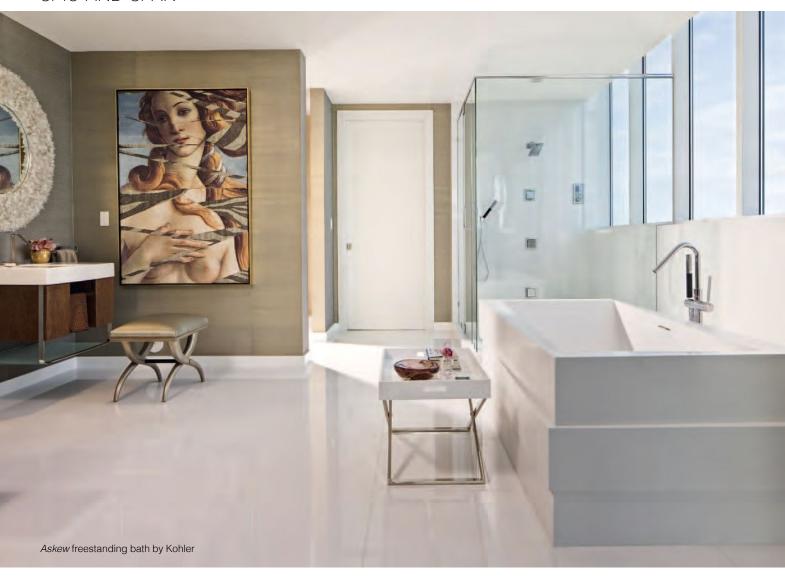
9. Where do you get inspiration from?

We see the streets of Manila as inspiration. The sound, the texture, the activity, and the people are taken in and processed as inspiration. We see the potential of design in giving progress and order to our city.

10. What is your work mantra?

Inspiring Manila's visual culture. Another one is celebrating Philippine culture.

SPIC AND SPAN



Spotless Sanctuary

How to keep your bathroom sparkling and sanitary

Written by Razel Estrella Photos courtesy of Dexterton, Homestore, and Kohler

ouldn't it be such an irony if the space where you freshen up also happens to be the dirtiest area in the house? It is inevitable for the bathroom not to catch all the grime, germs, and other unpleasant elements every time you step inside for your daily ablutions. This only serves as a reminder that as you diligently bathe, you must remember to give your bathing area some TLC as well.

Tiles

These probably make up over 50 percent of the bathroom, and its number one enemy is grout. Mop the floor and wipe the walls every day, and scrub them with a cleaning solution at least twice a month. The trusted baking soda and water mixture can also work as a DIY cleaner. For discolorations and cracked tiles, it is best to call a pro as water can get through and possibly damage the wall or floor beneath.

Toilet

Ah, our throne, where it is said we spend 92 days of our lifetime on.

To make it more comfortable to sit on, scrub the bowl, outside then inside, with bleach or a vinegar solution. Let it sit for a couple of minutes, rinse, and then flush the toilet. If stains are still visible, repeat the process and let the solution sit a little longer. Don't forget to give the back area a good scrubbing as well.

Showerhead, sink, and faucet

With a wet cloth or sponge, give them a wipe each night before going to bed. For grimy spots, wipe them with cloth or sponge dipped in a cleaning solution. For dark stains and to get rid of mineral deposits, remove the shower head or faucet aerator (the tip of the faucet where water comes out) and scrub it with a toothbrush.

Shower curtain

You may notice dark spots building on your shower curtain over time. These are moulds, and the reason why they are there is because they like moisture. Water tends to collect at the folds of the curtain, so be sure to spread it to its full length after use to dry completely. Check the air flow as well in the entire room and get an exhaust fan if necessary.

To remove the moulds, take off the curtain and go to an area where you can at least lay a huge chunk of it flat and wipe the spots with your cleaner. While at it, scrub the curtain rings and rod as well.



| The state of the

Mats

Speaking of moisture, don't leave wet towels or clothes on the bathroom floor. There are absorbent or water- and skid-resistant mats, and these are your best options for the entire house. Remove debris from bath mats every day with a hard-bristle brush and wash them weekly.

Mirrors

To have a clear vision of your face, wipe the mirror with alcohol, ammonia, or vinegar solution, and then wipe it dry with a soft cloth. Thanks to innovative technology, though, there are now microfiber cloths that do wonders on mirrors and other glass surfaces, and leave them streak-free. It shouldn't be hard to find one in the market.

After a major clean-up, spray the bathroom with an insect repellent.

Glass basin set with basin, steel support, mirror, light, and upper shelf by Kaiyu, available at Homestore



1. Vintage car decor, P175 | 2. White egg cup, P79, available at Boqueria Lifestyle Market | 3. Kinley sugar bowl, P1,239, available at Crate and Barrel | 4. Mini glass pitcher, P175 | 5. Triangulo porcelain plate, P175, available at Boqueria Lifestyle Market | 6. White Zuma tray, P1,379, available at Crate and Barrel | 7. Indo-studded round frame, P195 | 8. Cupcake stand, P350, available at Boqueria Lifestyle Market | 9. Weave teapot with porcelain infuser, P1,089, available at Crate and Barrel

Rise and Shine

Three inviting breakfast setups that will jumpstart your day

Written by Cy Yambao | Photographed by Mike Cuevas of Studio 100 Styled by Steph and Lady Badoy of Boqueria Lifestyle Market

Reakfast is said to be the most important meal of the day, as skipping it equates to lesser energy supply to keep you up and about. To make you more eager to wake up early every morning, we styled three breakfast setups that are sure to fill your stomach with hearty dishes and your mind with meaningful conversations. Now you have no more reason to miss breakfast, even though you have meetings to attend, errands to run, or children to look after.



1. Miguel wine carafe, P1,059, available at Crate and Barrel | 2. Teal saucier, P150 | 3. Marga matte white dinner plate, P175 | 4. Wood cheese board, P275 | 5. Wood egg cup, P89 | 6. Rectangular wood platter, P150 | 7. Small wood bowl, P125 | 8. Mellow Yellow bowl, P150 | 9. Blu cup, P89, all available at Boqueria Lifestyle Market

ENTERTAINING



1. Rose Alegre glasses, P409 each, available at Crate and Barrel | 2. Tala footed bowl, P250, available at Boqueria Lifestyle Market | 3. Red bridge tea kettle, P2,479 4. Blue Zuma tray, P1,379, available at Crate and Barrel | 5. Sea foam dessert plate, P150 | 6. Green decanter, P295 | 7. Rectangular wood platter, P150 | 8. White spice jar, P175, all available at Boqueria Lifestyle Market | 9-10. Toulouse yellow and green plates, P1,479 each, available at Crate and Barrel | 11. Olivia embossed footed bowl, P250, available at Boqueria Lifestyle Market

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West Elm

This newly opened store raises awareness and makes furniture shopping almost guilt-free

Written by Cy Yambao | Photographed by Reau Gutierrez



"We love the way you live." West Elm's catchphrase conveys the brand's vision of helping you build a home that tells your own story. Choose among their exquisite selection of handcrafted designs, green label furnishings, Fair Trade Certified™ items, and discoveries from around the world that all fit your lifestyle.

he most valuable service a furniture store—or any client-oriented business, for that matter—can offer is commitment. West Elm, a brand originating from Brooklyn in New York, continues their commitment of creating positive impact on people, communities, and the environment as they launch their flagship branch in the Philippines. Your home is your story, they say, and there's no doubt you'd be able to find pieces that speak of your preferences and advocacies at West Elm.

More than just manufacturing products that meet the standards, West Elm works with skilled artisans to create handcrafted vases, baskets, and capiz pieces. They partner with local designers from across the globe to bring unusual finds like brass pendants, medallion-patterned rugs, and embellished pillows right at your doorstep. They also help keep the environment green with products that bank on organic or responsibly sourced materials. If these still aren't enough, West Elm offers free in-home and in-store design services, with their pool of home stylists guiding you in picking the right colors, styling your space, and even planning parties. How fulfilling it must be that with every purchase at West Elm, you likewise take part in the brand's long-term global commitment of making the world





SPOTLIGHT I RESTAURANT



Le Petit Soufflé

The brainchild of two pastry chefs proves to be more than just desserts

Written by Andrea Arines | Photographed by Mike Cuevas of Studio 100



sweet potatoes and salad.

The Squid Ink Rizo (P395), one of Le Petit Soufflé's recommended dishes, is topped with fresh seafood sautéed in salt and pepper, Shimeji mushrooms, and a perfectly cooked omelette.

he collaboration between pastry chefs Miko Aspiras and Kristine Lotilla started with cookie bar Scout's Honor, but has now extended to a full-fledged restaurant at Century City Mall. Le Petit Soufflé, restaurateur Charlie Paw's next venture after Hole in the Wall, marries Asian and European tastes as they use Japanese ingredients to reinvent classic French dishes. While it is expected that the dessert menu entices you to try each and every sweet concoction, the main entrees of French-Japanese fusions deserve equal attention and curiosity.

It is not only the restaurant's interesting menu that attracts diners, but also the unique appeal of the interiors that makes you feel right at home from the entrance. The marble tables, wooden chairs, and abundant greens are reminiscent of Parisian streets, with soft French music filling the air. The bright rustic design, accented with mood lighting is punctuated by decorative rolling pins that inject more character to the place.





Crawling vines and pots of plants make for a cozy and inviting environment that is unique to Le Petit Soufflé. The owners opted to hang rolling pins on the trees as added artistic elements.





Le Petit Soufflé takes pride in their sweet offerings that are all driven by creativity. Their bestselling Valrhona Guanaja (P300) is 70 percent dark chocolate soufflé, which is a melt-in-yourmouth treat paired with Vanilla Crème Anglaise. Meanwhile, the French Toast (P295) meant for sharing is served with whipped cream and maple syrup. You must also give their Salted Egg Caramel Parfait (P200) a try—softee ice cream with salted egg custard mixed with granola, vanilla wafer, caramel, peanut brittle, and almond dacquoise.

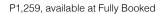
Bath and Beyond

Visual inspirations for your bathroom dreams

Written by Andrea Arines Photographed by Mike Cuevas of Studio 100









500 Bathroom Ideas & Dreamy Spaces by House Beautiful

The bathroom will always be one of the best areas in the house because it serves as your own relaxing space. This is where you can have your own time, thus it requires attention to detail. 500 Bathroom Ideas & Dreamy Spaces gives you a wide range of choices for your color schemes, walls and flooring, sinks and tubs, window treatments, storage, and lighting. It's completely packed with exquisite selections that will allow you to remodel your bathroom in your preferred manner.

Essential Tips by Page One

Due to endless innovations, it has become easier to give your bathroom a timeless appeal without having to sacrifice both the classic and modern elements. Essential Tips presents inspirational pegs for various design styles and describes each trend to help you tailor it to your own comfort zone. Ideas stem from time-bound practices originating from Scandinavian, Japanese, and Arab cultures all of which produce a relaxing spa ambiance that rejuvenate your body's core.

100 Best Bathrooms by Page One

Get ideas from 100 Best Bathrooms, your ultimate guide to bringing that well-thought-of bathroom to life. This book features a wide array of bathroom essentials, which are just what you need to find the bathroom style that speaks to you. Each page is filled with images that allow you to remodel your comfort station according to your liking such as intricate bathtubs, innovative shower systems, and one-of-a-kind accessories.

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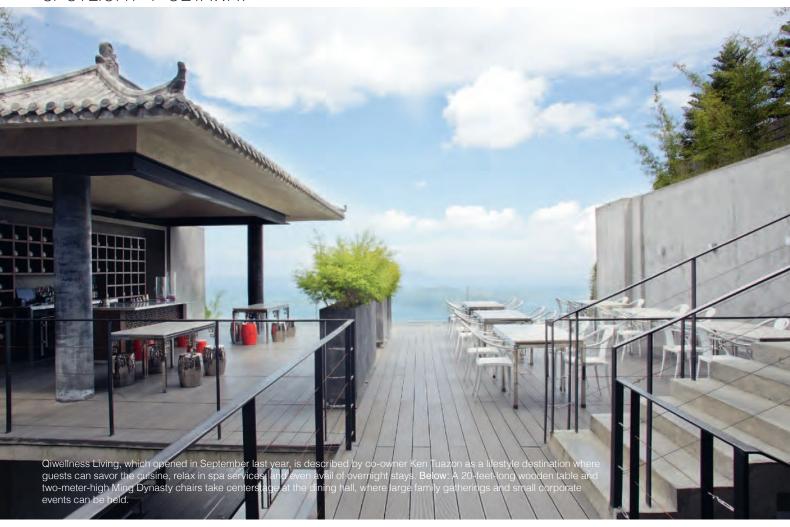
#WatchAppetite













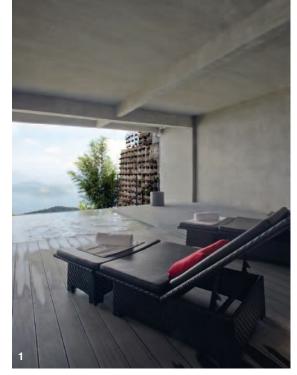
Qiwellness Living

Achieve holistic well-being at this destination spa influenced by Chinese practices

Written by Cy Yambao | Photographed by Mark Jacob of Studio 100

he sound of the chau gong that welcomes you as you walk past the majestic red doors signals the beginning of a sensorial journey. Qiwellness Living, one of the newest additions along Aguinaldo Highway in Tagaytay, gives you the chance to experience age-old Chinese traditions with only a short drive from the city. More than just a spa, it is a holistic destination where you can also dine and lodge—all while overlooking the calm lake, lush forest, and clear skies.

Bathhouses have played a significant part in Chinese history, and that of Qiwellness Living transports healing practices to a more modern setting. Recliner chairs facing the yin yang pool bring you as close to nature as possible, while the private rooms with ensuite shower offer an exclusive haven for couples staying for the night. The teahouse, which is located one floor higher, is characterized by an authentic Chinese pagoda that illuminates at sundown. It is home to multi-course menus offering a gastronomic adventure that involves the old and the new, the East and the West. The overall architectural and interior design similarly merges old-world charm with a modernized aesthetic, bringing to life a unique destination spa that pays tribute to China's mastery of the arts and sciences.

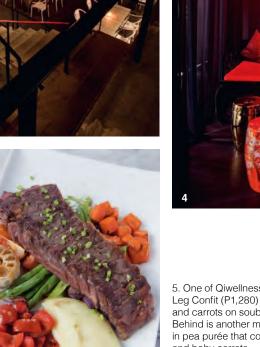




- 1. It is not everyday that you experience massages right in front of Taal Lake's panoramic view. These recliners facing the yin yang pool are perfect for watching the sun go down as Qiwellness Living's well-trained therapists give you the pampering you deserve.
- 2. If you wish to escape from the hustle and bustle of the city, Qiwellness Living offers an overnight getaway in their guesthouse. Experience massages by the yin yang pool or in your private room, get exclusive access to bathhouse facilities, and have a delectable breakfast at the teahouse.

- 3. The Chinese pagoda illuminates at night, with a lone bonfire keeping the place alive despite the dark surroundings. Enjoy a candelit dinner and taste dishes that combine classic and modern culinary techniques, as well as Western and Eastern ingredients.
- 4. The Opium Den, as this dimly lit retreat is called, is an extension of the bathhouse. Massage beds can be set up in each cubicle, where dry massages like Qiharmony (P1,880 for 90 minutes) and Qireflexology (P1,280 for 45 minutes) can be performed.











- 5. One of Qiwellness Living's bestselling dishes is the Duck Leg Confit (P1,280) served with roasted beetroot, bokchoy, and carrots on soubise purée and pomegranate gastrique. Behind is another must-try: the Lamb Breast Confit (P1,180) in pea purée that comes with marble potatoes, baby corn, and baby carrots.
- 6. Get a taste of heaven with the Wagyu Striploin (P3,880) served with wasabi pommes purée and roasted vegetables. At 400 to 450 grams, it can fill the stomachs of two people. All a la carte dishes at Qiwellness Living are served with soup and salad.



Written by Patti Sunio | Illustrated by Electrolychee Studio

h, water. They say man can live for a week without food, life, through his wealth and career status," says celebrity feng shui

to surround yourself with inspiration, or when you are welcoming renewed strength, water is key." Fortunately, water is abundant. "It is also the only element in *feng shui* that can exist in various phases: various ways in which we can take advantage of water's curative properties and help balance the energy in our home.

in your home's entrance; or paintings, artwork, and other structures with wave-like designs and forms. Best water colors are blue, black,

and purple, as well as metal colors like white and gold, which can further the strength of water.

"The north sector represents career, so that's where you should strengthen water," he advises. "Fill your walls with water-inspired art. Just don't touch the ceilings, as this may trigger unpleasant thoughts and cause instability at home." Also pay attention to how water energy is handled in the bedroom and bathroom. Did you know that although water is used to relax the mind, it's a big no-no in the bedroom? According to Master Hanz, the bedroom is supposed to be charged with fire energy, which represents passion and love. Having water elements in your room, such as a fish bowl,

a painting with water, or even mirrors will only water down the fiery energy in the bedroom.

The bathroom, on the other hand, is where all the luck—wealth, love, and heath—can be flushed out, so pay close attention to how your bathroom is arranged. Have metal wind chimes in your bathroom if it's located in the northeast or southwest part of your house, or a display of wood fortune plants if it is located in the northern area. Hang crystals by the window if your bathroom is in the south area, or light candles if it is in the east or southeast.

"Water is a very powerful and helpful element, so learn to manage this energy and resource well," concludes Master Hanz. 🏠



Rat

It's August and ghost month, so while business looks good for Rats, it's still highly advisable that you strategize long-term plans well and wait for good timing before closing deals.



Horse

It will be a busy month for Horses this August. You should make time for travel and leisure, and take a break from work-related duties. Just remember to take extra caution to avoid any accident while on the road.



Ox

Financial luck looks good for Oxen this month, but you should be careful with investments on business and property. Meanwhile, it's encouraged that you engage in company affairs and enjoy time with colleagues as this may be beneficial to them.



Sheep

Sheep may find this month quite tiresome due to work and fatigue from going home late. It's advisable for the Sheep to be careful when driving home at night this ghost month.



Tiger

Keep your guard up this month and protect yourself from negative intentions, health problems, and other unexpected mishaps. A flexible schedule will allow Tigers to accomplish more, but remember to light incense and offer prayers to keep safe during ghost month.



Monkey

August is a good time for Monkeys to take a breather from work, engage in activities like yoga, and relax and unwind.



Rabbit

It's fortune month for Rabbits this August. Business luck looks good, but keep major plans and new ventures on hold until the end of ghost month.



Rooster

Roosters should be careful with handling documents and other legal papers this August. You should also watch out for people in your circle, who may have negative thoughts of jealousy and envy.



Dragon

August looks great for Dragons in terms of wealth and career. You will be recognized for your hard work and good reputation. However, be cautious with adventurous sports during ghost month.



Dog

It'll be quite a chaotic month for Dogs this August. You are advised to stay close to people who may help you and be wary of small issues before these escalate into something irrevocable.



Snake

Love luck is abundant for Snakes this month, as singles may meet potential partners. But while romance luck will be blossoming for Snakes, it is not a good time yet for marriage.



Boar

August will be an unstable and unpredictable month for Boars. It's suggested that you busy yourself with doing good deeds to outdo the negativity on ghost month.



Visit **Master Hanz Cua** at his 8 Treasures-House of Mystical Charms shop at 1/F EDSA Shangri-La Plaza, Mandaluyong City or get in touch with him at 0922 8290 382.

A Newfound Love

Entrepreneur Stephanie Kienle-Gonzalez expresses her fascination with South African culture through her favorite home items

Interviewed by Cy Yambao | Photographed by Reau Gutierrez









- - akeup by Lynn Niduaza

- 1. "I kind of put together that custom cabinet, which is part of the Philux bespoke collection. I was inspired by a design I saw online, but I adjusted the dimensions and added the shagreen panels at the front. We also enjoy the piece because we love to entertain."
- 2. "I just love the movement of this bronze sculpture by Dylan Lewis, who is a South African artist that we fell in love with on our first trip to South Africa. All the marks are handprints of the sculptor, so it's really laborious work."
- 3. "That's a painting by Lionel Smit, also a young South African artist that we discovered during our trips to the country. I'm not usually a fan of portraits that look too realistic, but what I love about it is that despite its grand size, I thought it would still be soothing in the living room because of the strokes and the color palette."

- 4. "The **lamp** is a quirky addition to the accessories of our home. I love the fact that there are real feathers on it, and it comes with very fine gold-dusted duck legs. I just thought it was kind of feminine and sculptural yet functional at the same time."
- 5. "The Mason wingback chair means a lot to me and my sister Jessica because it was one of the first pieces we designed together when she moved back to Manila. It's a piece that I enjoy in the home, but it's also symbolic of how my sister and I started collaborating and basically coming out with our own designs."
- 6. "I'm a very big fan of **Peter Beard** because of the history and the work behind his photographs. I had the opportunity to meet his wife, who sold us a photograph of his that's now displayed by our entrance. I was just really taken by their story, and have since followed

the development of this artist and his links to Africa."

- 7. "Olivia d'Aboville is a very dear friend of mine, and she gifted us with this *Iridogorgia* art piece so it has sentimental value. It's made from a very simple material, which she knitted together to produce an organic form. It's just an artwork that I really love, and it actually looks different depending on the time of day."
- 8. "That's a **kudu horn**, a beautiful animal in South Africa. We make sure that all the animal pieces are sourced sustainably before buying. I just think it's such an elegant animal, and this is us paying homage to it."
- 9. "My husband has a very good eye for art, and he's actually the one who frames our paintings. I love the fact that this **collage** is comprised of different pieces:

"That's kind of how things go in our home—they evolve. Because I love interiors so much, I feel like it should evolve as our lives evolve," says Stephanie Kienle-Gonzalez, co-owner of furniture brand Philux who has recently fallen in love with the culture and people of South Africa.

oil, print, bronze sculptures, and natural stones. I just like how everything fell together organically."

10. "We grew up with a family business, so I learned a lot about wood as a young girl. It has taken years and years for these **petrified** wood side tables to look like this. I love pieces with a bit of history and soul."



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